

Good evening,

Please see the message below from Brian Cechnicki:

District Superintendents,

The safety of New York's students is of paramount importance and we encourage all districts to take the appropriate steps to ensure that no student is put in harm's way during the dangerous weather conditions being seen across the State.

In cases where a district has fully exhausted all available snow days and scheduled vacation days, the Department has a process by which districts can request a waiver if they are unable to meet the minimum instructional requirements.

Education Law Sec 3604(7) allows the commissioner to grant waivers in certain situations so long as "the commissioner finds that such district cannot make up such days of instruction by using for the secondary grades all scheduled vacation days which occur prior to the first scheduled regents examination day in June, and for the elementary grades all scheduled vacation days which occur prior to the last scheduled regents examination day in June. For the purposes of this subdivision, "scheduled vacation days" shall mean days on which the schools of the district are not in session and for which no prohibition exists in subdivision eight of this section for them to be in session."

Districts may also refer to the information available at: https://stateaid.nysed.gov/attendance/htm_docs/attendance_900_990_Hour_Requirement_memo.htm.

As always, specific questions can be directed to 180days@nysed.gov.

Thank you,
Brian

Brian Cechnicki
Director of Education Finance